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MEMORANDUM

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN... *K*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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INFORMATION

February 8, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

GENERAL SCOWCROFT *BS*

SUBJECT:

Cease-fire Developments
(February 7 - 4:30 p.m. EST)

The following is a report on current cease-fire developments in South Vietnam and on the present situation in Laos and Cambodia. This report includes information received from State, Defense and CIA as of 4:30 p.m. EST February 7, 1973. ✓

Vietnam

Military

-- There has been little change in the low level of military activity in most areas of South Vietnam but some increase in fighting has occurred in the northern half of the country.

-- In the highlands, South Vietnamese efforts to clear Route 14 are meeting stiff resistance. The road remains closed both north and south of Pleiku City and Kontum remains isolated. Route 19 linking Pleiku with the coast is now open.

-- It is the assessment of Embassy Saigon that the cease-fire seems to be gradually taking hold in South Vietnam.

-- ARVN discipline has not broken down nor has there been the wave of desertions that some thought would follow a cease-fire. The territorial forces have performed creditably.

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INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

Cease-fire Control

4-Party Joint Military Commission

-- There was no meeting of the Chiefs of Delegation on February 6; the next meeting was scheduled for February 7.

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ICCS

-- ICCS deployments to date are: Canada 162, Hungary 89, Indonesia 294, and Poland 104.

Political

-- Vietnamese morale countrywide has been generally good with few visible manifestations of popular support for the Communists.

-- There has been neither mass VC terrorism nor a mass GVN roundup of suspects following the cease-fire. Refugees have stayed in GVN camps and new war victims have generally moved from Communist "land grab areas" to seek refuge with the GVN.

-- President Thieu has taken several steps to mend his fences with political and religious leaders.

Regional Developments

-- The North Vietnamese are continuing to move supplies toward both South Vietnam and Laos.

Laos

-- Communist forces continue to build up pressure against government forces.

Cambodia

-- Khmer insurgent forces launched a series of attacks on February 6 against government positions east of the Mekong River, but government defenders are holding their ground.

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